

OFFICE OF THE FAMILY AND CHILDREN'S OMBUDS



Quarterly Report Statistics At-A-Glance

2022 Reporting Year

Quarter 4
June 2022 - Aug. 2022

Mission

To protect children and parents from harmful agency action or inaction, and to make agency officials and state policy makers aware of system-wide issues in the child protection and child welfare system so they can improve services.

Vision

That the Washington State child welfare system protects all children from abuse or neglect, and provides resources to strengthen and preserve families.

www.ofco.wa.gov

Last Revised Sept. 2022

Complaint Investigation Activities

Count Complaints Received	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Annual Total
2021-2022	62	63	63	64	68	71	77	74	70	77	74	73	836
2020-2021	56	67	53	60	57	77	95	77	70	74	75	75	836
2019-2020	75	87	73	86	72	55	57	63	57	57	68	71	821

Count Completed Investigations	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Annual Total
2021-2022	84	56	67	67	61	65	66	65	86	59	81	58	815
2020-2021	59	57	40	68	51	46	79	58	69	75	68	63	733
2019-2020	61	80	62	66	92	79	78	59	60	55	55	83	830

Investigations by DCYF Region - 2022 Count

DCYF Region	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
Region 1	36	35	46	35	152
Region 2	12	12	20	27	71
Region 3	37	26	26	25	114
Region 4	31	37	40	24	132
Region 5	34	27	28	30	119
Region 6	37	42	45	39	163
Central Intake	5	7	8	5	25
Other	18	7	4	14	43

Adverse Findings Made Against DCYF - 2022 Count

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
2	8	4	6	20

Investigation Outcomes - 2022 Count

Outcome	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
No basis for further action	146	130	146	128	550
Intervention or assistance	23	33	27	26	109
Monitored until resolution	16	12	29	20	77
Resolved without action by OFCO	16	15	14	15	60
Outside OFCO jurisdiction	5	2	1	8	16
Other outcome	1	1	0	1	3

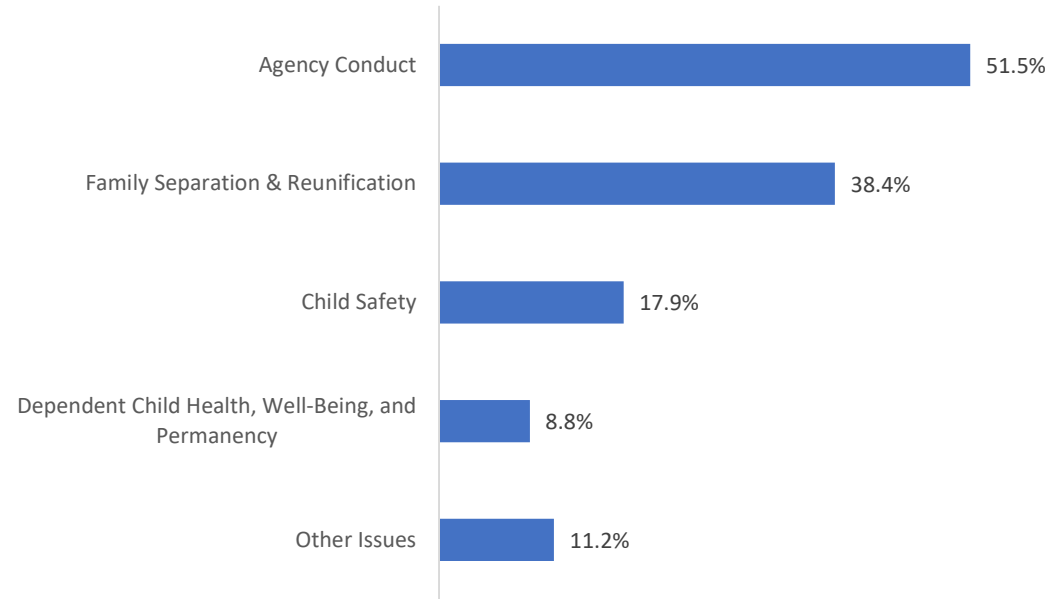
Emergent Investigations - 2022 Count

Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
41	30	31	34	136

The 2022 reporting year runs Sept 1, 2021 - Aug 31, 2022. Q1 is Sep 21 - Nov 21; Q2 is Dec 21 - Feb 22; Q3 is Mar 22 - May 22; & Q4 is June 22 - Aug 22

Issues Identified in Complaints

Categories of Issues Identified by Complainants - 2022



Top Concerns Reported in Each Issue Category - 2022 Annual Count

Agency Conduct	Family Separation & Reunification	Child Safety	Dependent Child Health, Well-Being, and Permanency	Other Issues
420 Complaints	313 Complaints	146 Complaints	72 Complaints	91 Complaints
Unreasonable or Inadequate CPS Intervention (167)	Unnecessary Removal from Parents (104)	Failure to Protect Children from Parental Abuse or Neglect (58)	Unreasonable Delay in Achieving Permanency (21)	Failure to Provide Parent with Services (26)
Unprofessional Conduct (111)	Failure to Provide Contact Between Child and Family (70)	Failure to Address Safety Concerns Involving Children in Foster Care (37)	Failure to Provide Child With Services (20)	Violation of Parents' Rights (22)
Communication Failures (72)	Failure to Reunite Family (55)	Failure to Address Safety Concerns Involving Children Being Returned to Parents (22)	Unnecessary Change of Placement or Inadequate transition (11)	Lack of Support/Services to Unlicensed Relative Caregiver (14)

OFCO Systemic and Other Investigations

Child Fatalities Examined by OFCO - 2022 Count <i>(Child death when family had history with DCYF in the most recent 12 months)</i>				
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
19	22	20	22	83

Executive Child Fatality/Near Fatality Reviews Attended - 2022 Count				
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
6	8	12	11	37

Occurrences of Hotels or DCYF Offices as Placement ("Placement Exceptions") - 2022 Count				
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
864	982	1389	1447	4682

Child Near Fatalities Examined by OFCO - 2022 Count <i>(Near death when family had history with DCYF in the most recent 12 months)</i>				
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
14	16	20	10	60

Recurrent Maltreatment - 2022 Count <i>(Notification of third founded finding for family or child in 12 month period)</i>				
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Annual
29	35	11	26	101

The 2022 reporting year runs Sept 1, 2021 - Aug 31, 2022. Q1 is Sep 21 - Nov 21; Q2 is Dec 21 - Feb 22; Q3 is Mar 22 - May 22; & Q4 is June 22 - Aug 22